

# ALEC REED ACADEMY

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Principal and CEO: Allison Moise-Dixon



4<sup>th</sup> March 2020

RE: COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will have heard in the news, the country is sensibly preparing for a potential outbreak in the UK of the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The current position is that the risk is very low and that children and young people should continue to attend school as normal.

As a parent myself, I do understand the concerns that families may feel but I also feel that it is essential that we do not cause undue stress or worry to our children and young people. As an academy, we are keeping up to date with information received both from the Department for Education and Public Health England and we are following their advice.

We have been, since the outbreak, advising our students of the need for good basic hygiene including the importance of hand washing and ensuring that if they do have a cough or cold, they use and dispose of tissues in the bin. Our cleaning staff have, as a precaution, increased their checks on hand wash in toilets and are ensuring that doors, handles and surfaces are thoroughly disinfected.

We have had no reported cases at the academy. In line with the advice that you will have seen in the news and Public Health England, we ask that you speak with your child to remind them of the minimal risk but the sensible actions that they can take to protect themselves and the academy community. We will continue to have these conversations with the students in the academy also.

I have attached the advice that we have received from Public Health England. This information will also be regularly updated on our website.

Should you have any further concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Warm regards and best wishes

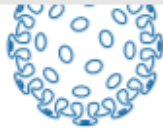
**Allison Moise-Dixon**  
Principal and CEO

*'The Collins PiXL Award for Outstanding Progress'* National Award Winners 2014





Public Health  
England



# Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

## How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

## How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

## How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

### If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser

### You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks & sport activities



Before cooking & eating



SCHOOL ETC.  
On arrival at any childcare or educational setting



After using the toilet



Before leaving home



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, diahea, pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: [campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools)

## What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days.

See [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) for advice on coronavirus.

**If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately**

